

Message Text

SECRET

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60

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-05 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-04 /048 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:RAPECK:CFE

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

NEA:SSOBER

S/S: REWOODS

PM/SAS:DNIEMI (IN SUBSTANCE)

----- 005254

R 170045Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

S E C R E T STATE 253544

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PK

SUBJECT: MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM THE SECRETARY

1. WHEN I MET WITH BHUTTO IN ISLAMABAD, HE MENTIONED TO ME THAT HIS MILITARY PROCUREMENT OFFICERS HAD REQUESTED PERMISSION TO SEND A PAF TEAM TO SEE CERTAIN AIRCRAFT (UNSPECIFIED) IN TEXAS BUT WERE REPORTEDLY TOLD THIS COULD NOT BE DONE UNTIL I HAD COMPLETED MY SOUTH ASIA TRIP.

2. BHUTTO APPARENTLY WAS REFERRING TO A PROPOSED TECHNICAL BRIEFING ON THE A-7 ATTACK AIRCRAFT WHICH REPRESENTATIVES FROM LING TEMCO VOUGHT AEROSPACE HAD EARLIER DISCUSSED WITH DEPT OFFICIALS. THE LTV PEOPLE LEFT A COPY OF A LETTER TO LTV FROM AIR MARSHALL ZULFIQAR ALI KHAN PROPOSING DISPATCH OF PAF TEAM TO LTV FACILITIES IN DALLAS TO EVALUATE A-7. AT THAT TIME, THE LTV REPS HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT USG POLICY HAD CHANGED AND THAT WE WERE PREPARED TO APPROVE

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CASH SALES OF LETHAL END-ITEMS FOR PAKISTAN.

3. LTV OFFICIALS WERE TOLD THAT MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY HAD NOT CHANGED AND THAT UNDER ITS PRESENT TERMS SALE OF A-7 WAS PRECLUDED. DEPT OFFICIALS ALSO NOTED THAT WHILE SECRETARY WOULD BE DISCUSSING MILITARY SUPPLY DURING HIS SOUTH ASIAN TRIP, THEY COULD NOT SPECULATE ON WHETHER OR WHEN POLICY MIGHT BE ALTERED. FINALLY, THEY TOLD LTV REPS THAT BECAUSE OF RESTRICTION ON SALE OF A-7'S IT WAS DOUBTFUL THAT CLASSIFIED BRIEFING WHICH WAS DESIRED BY PAF COULD BE AUTHORIZED. SUBSEQUENTLY, DEPARTMENT, WITH DOD CONCURRENCE, TURNED DOWN FORMAL LTV LICENSE APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF CLASSIFIED TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF A-7 TO PAF.

4. THIS CASE APPEARS TO BE THE BASIS FOR BHUTTO'S INQUIRY ALTHOUGH HIS UNDERSTANDING OF THE MATTER APPEARS SOMEWHAT GARBLED. OUR JUDGMENT REMAINS THAT AS LONG AS SALE OF THIS EQUIPMENT IS PROHIBITED IT WOULD BE INAPPROPRIATE AND MISLEADING FOR LTV, WITH USG CONCURRENCE, TO BRING HIGH-RANKING PAF OFFICERS HERE FOR ELABORATE BRIEFING WHICH COULD ONLY BE CONSTRUED AS SALES PITCH. THIS POSITION IN NO WAY PREJUDGES OVERALL ISSUE, BUT IT SEEMS BEST TO KEEP OUR MILITARY RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN WHATEVER POLICY GUIDELINES MAY EXIST AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

5. YOU ARE AUTHORIZED TO DRAW ON THIS INFORMATION IN CLEARING THE RECORD WITH BHUTTO IN WHATEVER WAY YOU THINK MOST APPROPRIATE. KISSINGER

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NNN

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